

fact that she couldn't use a computer or type might be a problem so she went back to school and learned how. When she thought she was qualified, applied for a paralegal position at Warden, Christiansen, Johnson and Berg, the oldest, and largest, law firm in Northwest Montana.

She enjoyed working as a paralegal, but missed the responsibility of having her own clients. With the encouragement of her employers, she petitioned the Supreme Court for the opportunity to take the bar exam. Such petitions are rarely successful, and she was shocked when hers was. The review course she took during a sweltering Montana summer, was the hardest work she had ever done. Leaving her family to live in her "little cell" of a dorm room was hardly an ideal way to spend June and July. Yet she hoped that if she studied night and day, she could reach her goal. After the three day test was over, she felt discouraged. She could just tell that, despite her efforts, it was too much to cram four years of law school into six weeks. Katherine drove home, and was prepared to take the exam again in a few months' time.

Then, in early September, the letter came. To her amazement she had passed the impossible exam and she was a lawyer again.

The work didn't stop there. To this day, she continues to get to the office early, and stay late if necessary, working her hardest to make sure her clients get the justice they deserve. Her life story so far may not be one of enduring the rigors of a life in a newly settled land, but she has shown the same qualities: having the drive inside of her, to get up each day, work her hardest, and provide for her family. The true spirit shared by all Montana women has always been that although there will be struggles, through hard work, you will triumph. Katherine Maxwell is the perfect example of this spirit.●

YOUTH HONORED FOR VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

● Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, allow me to tell you today about the extraordinary efforts of our youth volunteers we have across the country. Last week, there were week-long activities and ceremonies to honor over 100 young people chosen for their exceptional volunteer projects from across the nation as part of the 2000 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program.

I specifically want to congratulate eighteen-year-old Jason Koth of Grand Forks, North Dakota, and fifteen-year-old Scot Miller of Fargo, North Dakota, both from my home state. They were named the top high school and middle level youth volunteers in North Dakota last February, and were two out of 104 youth honored out of millions of youth in the United States.

Jason was recognized for his fund-raising efforts for the Make-a-Wish Foundation. Scot helped raise funds for a city library expansion project and started a community recycling program. In recognition of their community involvement, they each received a \$1,000 cash award, an engraved silver medallion and an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., for last week's events.

I am honored to have been a part of the 2000 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Ceremony on May 8, where Senator SUSAN COLLINS and I had the opportunity to recognize the out-

standing accomplishments of this group of youth volunteers.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards were created by Prudential in 1995 to encourage youth volunteerism and to identify and reward young role models. It operates in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

We should all take a moment to feel great pride in our nation's youth. These students show exactly what type of compassion and commitment is possible at any age. With their community spirit, our future is in good hands.●

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF HARRY L. GARDNER, SR.

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, today I rise with great sadness. On Monday, May 15, 2000, Harry L. Gardner, Sr.—a quiet giant in the long history of Delaware civil rights—died. He was a man whose very presence, literally, brought calm to the most difficult, seemingly intractable problems of race at the height of the civil rights movement in Delaware.

When citizens first heard that the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King had been assassinated in April of 1968, what was once a cauldron of mounting tension between disillusioned African-Americans and Whites exploded into a series of violent and destructive acts—on both sides—reflective of unrest, resentment, and downright anger.

As you may know, of the many inner-cities ravaged by full-scale rioting and violence during this time period, Wilmington, Delaware—my hometown—was the only urban area where the National Guard occupied the city for an extended period of time. Indeed, for nine months, police officers and guardsmen patrolled the streets of Wilmington in an effort to bring order to what was seen by many in the mainstream as chaos.

As a young attorney, continually advocating for equity and social justice for African-Americans and other minorities, I saw things quite differently than many of my mainstream counterparts.

There were reasons for my own view: my Mom and Dad, who taught many lessons about the importance of equality, liberty and justice for all citizens; the people of East Side and East Lake, predominantly African-American communities where I spent a few summers life-guarding for neighborhood children; and African-American leaders like Harry L. Gardner, who taught me to believe that if I could not change the world and the view of race relations, there was no reason that I could not set a standard by which I lived my own life and became an example for others.

This was, in fact, the beauty of Harry Gardner. For 35 years, I had the pleasure of knowing a man whose deep respect for people engendered a deep respect for him. During the period of Na-

tional Guard occupation, Harry was one of a very select group of people who were allowed to talk to rioters during racial disturbances. He was depended upon by city officials and neighborhood residents both to help in diffusing threatening situations and to continue to articulate the very legitimate concerns of African-American people. Though quite a difficult tight-rope to walk, Harry made it look easy. In no small part, it was his ability to touch the heart of diverse groups of people and find common ground that, in effect, saved the city.

This, however, is just a portion Harry Gardner's legacy. While a career officer at the Ferris School, a juvenile correctional facility for adolescent boys, Harry founded Northeast Civic Alliance, chaired the Wilmington Police & Community Advisory Council and the Wilmington Fire & Community Council and helped start and maintain a group home for troubled youth. Yet, having said all of this, Harry received few accolades for his many faithful years of service. He was self-effacing, and traded in recognition and reward for diligent, undaunted self sacrifice for the voiceless in our community.

We may all know a Harry Gardner in our respective communities. A man who changed the way we think through living a reality of public service that surpassed rhetoric and fundamentally changed the way people from all different backgrounds see themselves and interact with each other.

Dr. W.E.B. DuBois, the famed sociologist and civil rights scholar, once said, "peace will be my applause." Harry, today, we in the Senate—and so many others back home—are all clapping loudly for your life and for its resounding impact in Wilmington and throughout the State of Delaware. Your presence will be missed, but your lessons will remain in our hearts forever.●

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LAO VETERANS OF AMERICA

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Lao Veterans of America as they mark the 25th Annual Remembrance of the United States involvement in Laos. During the Vietnam War, many brave Laotians and their families chose to fight along side American soldiers against the North Vietnamese as part of the United States Special Forces. These brave souls took great risks, and deserve our recognition and thanks.

Those represented by the Lao Veterans of America served honorably during the conflict in Vietnam. They fought bravely to prevent the North Vietnamese from invading South Vietnam from Laos, and rescued shot down American pilots and brought them to safety. Through their actions, countless American lives were saved. These heroic deeds often placed the veterans and their families' lives in great risk as a result.